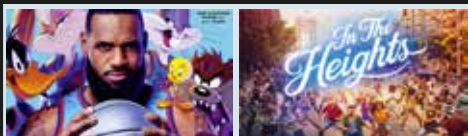


# Wonthaggi Arts Centre

19 Aug - 21 Aug

CINEMA



Space Jam [PG]

In The Heights [PG]

Thu 19 4:00pm Thu 19 10:00am  
Fri 20 1:00pm Fri 20 4:00pm



Black Widow [M]

Fast and Furious 9 [M]

Fri 20 10:00am Fri 20 10:00am  
Sat 21 7:00pm Sat 21 7:00pm



Gunpowder  
Milkshake [MA15+]

Thu 19 1:00pm  
Fri 20 7:00pm  
Sat 21 10:00am

## St Kilda Film Festival

Selection of Short Films



VICTORIAN TOUR

PRESENTED BY INDORIE

Saturday 21 August

Directors Choice 1:00pm

Winners Program 4:00pm

Coming Soon



September

EXHIBITIONS

NOEL COUNIHAN  
ROBERT SMITH  
AND WONTHAGGI

27 JULY - 19 NOV 2021

OPENING SATURDAY 24 JULY 2-4PM

WONTHAGGI UNION COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE  
96 GRAHAM ST WONTHAGGI



Wonthaggi Union Community Arts Centre

Box Office, Tue - Fri 10:00am 4:00pm  
www.wonthaggiartscentre.com

96 Graham St, Wonthaggi 3995  
phone: 03 5671 2470



# THE PULSE

Events, entertainment and community news



The second edition of "500 Million Years on Phillip Island" by Linda Cuttriss and Eric Bird is out now and will be celebrated in a launch on August 22, at St John's Uniting Church in Cowes.

## 500 millions years on Phillip Island

This Sunday (August 22), local authors Linda Cuttriss and Eric Bird explore 500 million years of our island history.

"500 Million Years on Phillip Island" tracks the natural history of the island, beautifully illustrated by Norval Watson.

The book covers the First People's lives on Mollw, the arrival of European explorers and first-hand accounts of pastoralist families, seeing how generations of farmers, town-folk and tourists have impacted and changed the landscape. It also looks at how people can work together to nurture, protect and restore the landscape in this revised edition.

To celebrate the release of the updated second edition, the Island Story Gatherers present a very special event on Sunday, August 22, at 2.30pm at St John's Uniting Church in Cowes.

Multi-instrumentalist Rosie Westbrook will welcome the audience with a musical performance and Linda and Eric will be interviewed in a Q&A style format by Dr Laura Brearley. The book will be formally launched by Anne Davie.

Due to Covid restrictions on seating capacity, numbers will be limited and bookings are essential. To book, please go to [www.trybooking.com/BTOYC](http://www.trybooking.com/BTOYC).

The event will also be run subject to COVID-19 regulations.

For more information or to purchase the book, please visit [pifestivalofstories.com](http://pifestivalofstories.com).

## Oscar shoots for the stars

Forget the Olympics – here comes the World Monologue Games.

It's been called the globe's biggest acting event, and a 10-year-old from Phillip Island is right in the thick of it.

Oscar Tuchtan from Cape Woolamai found out this month he's been selected in the regional finals of this year's World Monologue Games.

Featuring performers from 51 countries, the Games are an opportunity for actors to strut their stuff, in a lockdown friendly environment.

The prize money, exposure, and the chance to let off some steam after another year of lockdowns has encouraged performers from across the world to submit videos of their performances.

Oscar's monologue about AFL – another of his passions – is entered in the Tiger category for the youngest competitors.

He wrote it about the day an AFL footballer gave him a pair of muddy boots he'd just played in.

"I loved performing this piece, as it's about a wonderful birthday memory I shared with a great friend of mine," said Oscar.

"We were invited into the rooms after the match and got to see the celebration and the post-match rituals. I still have the footy boots that Rhys Palmer gave me on that day."

Oscar will now compete against nine other finalists from Australia and New Zealand in a regional livestream at 7pm on Saturday, September 18.

Audiences will be able to watch the live stream and also vote for their favourite performances.

Oscar, who has missed being onstage throughout Covid, is relishing the chance to perform for a global audience.

"It's really fantastic to be part of this amazing event," he said.

### Family affair

While all eyes will be on Oscar in September, getting there has



Oscar Tuchtan with dad Charles. Mum Vicki describes Oscar as "... an absolute performer. He enjoys any spotlight on him".

been quite a family effort.

Proud parents Vicki and Charles are keen to support Oscar pursue his dreams and were hands on helping him prepare his entry for the competition.

"First he had to apply, then he got invited to enter," Vicki explained.

"We had to film a monologue and send it in."

The family has a set up at home with lights, camera and a green screen - "he does a lot of auditions, and a lot are online" - with dad behind the camera, and mum handling any additional parts in script readings.

"We're not stage parents pushing him into this, it's just something he has always gravitated towards," said Vicki.

"When you see that spark, you've got to go with it."

Going with it includes helping prepare for auditions, or jetting off to New York so Oscar could attend classes at A Class Act NY, a studio that offers classes for aspiring actors from children to adults.

"We went to New York a couple of years ago and he did monologue training with them," Vicki said.

"He's kept it up and works with a voice coach online, doing US accents."

### Dreams

Oscar had his eye on a performance career from an early age.

"He's an absolute performer. He enjoys any spotlight on him," said Vicki, who recalls her son busking out the front of the house when he was two.

"Music is big in our house. My

parents were music teachers and he's had a guitar since he could walk.

"He does musicals, but it's serious drama theatre that he loves the most."

Covid has meant Oscar's theatrical dreams have been curtailed in the past year.

Even so, he still managed to star in two local productions over summer: Vivaldi, Cecilia and the Carnevale with the Wonthaggi Theatrical Group, and Wind in the Willows with the Leongatha Lyric Theatre.

He also successfully auditioned for the Mass Performing Choir and will appear at Rod Laver Arena next April - Covid permitting.

Already signed to an agent (based in Queensland), Oscar's dream is to secure a role on television or in film.

In the meantime, closer to home, he's excited the new performing arts centre at Newhaven College is almost completed, and hopes that next year the popular school production will go ahead.

He's also looking forward to the promised new cultural centre in Cowes, which he hopes means more professional productions will come to town.

And when he's not following his acting dreams, he's busy on the football field, playing for Phillip Island, and umpiring for South Gippsland.

Despite his dreams of stardom, Vicki said Oscar is realistic about the commitment and drive it takes to succeed and thinks his football experiences are good preparation for the world of acting.

"He's very resilient. He barracks for Carlton, so he knows what it's like to lose."

"There's plenty of auditions we go for that he doesn't get."

"But he has a natural ability. It's a gift he's been given, and he needs to use it for something."

View the event timeline at [monologues.com.au/WMG-timeline](http://monologues.com.au/WMG-timeline)